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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
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ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY  
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE  
THE ATTORNEY GENERAL  
THE SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR  
THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE  
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION  
THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY  
THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE  
THE UNITED STATES REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE  
THE CHAIRMAN, JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF  
THE CHAIRMAN, NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION  
THE DIRECTOR, ARMS CONTROL AND DISARMAMENT AGENCY  
THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
THE ADMINISTRATOR, GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION  
THE ADMINISTRATOR, NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND  
SPACE ADMINISTRATION  
THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
THE DIRECTOR, FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY  
THE DIRECTOR, INFORMATION SECURITY OVERSIGHT OFFICE

SUBJECT: Protection of Classified Information

In response to NSDD-19, an interdepartmental group chaired by the Department of Justice has forwarded for consideration a draft National Security Decision Directive (Tab A). The actions it proposes are designed to help deter unauthorized disclosures of classified information.

Please provide formal agency comments on the draft NSDD no later than Friday, May 14.

*Michael O. Wheeler*

Michael O. Wheeler  
Staff Secretary

Attachment

Proposed NSDD

T  
A  
B  
A

Tab G

DRAFT NATIONAL SECURITY DECISION DIRECTIVE

1. Each agency of the Executive Branch that originates or stores classified information shall adopt internal procedures to safeguard against unauthorized disclosures of classified information. Such procedures shall at a minimum provide as follows:

a. All persons with authorized access to classified information shall be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement as a condition of access. All such agreements must be in a form determined by the Department of Justice to be enforceable in a civil action brought by the United States. This requirement may be implemented prospectively by agencies for which the administrative burden of compliance would otherwise be excessive.

b. All persons with authorized access to Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI) shall be required to sign a nondisclosure agreement as a condition of access to SCI and collateral classified information. All such agreements must include a provision for prepublication review to assure deletion of SCI and collateral classified information and, in addition, must be in a form determined by the Department of Justice to be enforceable in a civil action brought by the United States.

c. Appropriate policies shall be adopted to govern contacts between media representatives and agency officials, so as to reduce the opportunity for negligent or deliberate disclosures of classified information. All persons with authorized access to classified information shall be clearly apprised of the agency's policies in this regard.

2. Each agency of the Executive Branch that originates or stores classified information shall adopt internal procedures to govern the reporting and investigation of unauthorized disclosures of such information. Such procedures shall at a minimum provide that:

a. All such disclosures that the agency considers to be seriously damaging to its mission and responsibilities shall be evaluated to ascertain the nature of the information disclosed and the extent to which it had been disseminated.

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b. The agency shall conduct a preliminary internal investigation prior to or concurrently with seeking investigative assistance from other agencies.

c. The agency shall maintain records of disclosures so evaluated and investigated.

d. Agencies in the possession of classified information originating with another agency shall cooperate with the originating agency by conducting internal investigations of the unauthorized disclosure of such information.

e. Employees determined by the agency to have refused cooperation with investigations of such unauthorized disclosures or to have made such disclosures will be denied further access to classified information and subjected to other administrative sanctions as appropriate.

3. The Department of Justice shall continue to review reported unauthorized disclosures of classified information to determine whether FBI investigation is warranted. Interested departments and agencies shall be consulted in developing criteria for evaluating such matters and in determining which cases should receive investigative priority. The FBI is authorized to investigate such matters as constitute potential violations of federal criminal law, even though administrative sanctions may be sought instead of criminal prosecution.

4. Nothing in this directive is intended to modify or preclude interagency agreements between FBI and other criminal investigative agencies regarding their responsibility for conducting investigations within their own agencies or departments.

5. The Office of Personnel Management and all departments and agencies with employees having access to classified information are directed to revise existing regulations and policies, as necessary, so that employees may be required to submit to polygraph examinations, when appropriate, in the course of investigations of unauthorized disclosures of classified information. As a minimum, such regulations shall permit an agency to decide that appropriate adverse consequences will follow an employee's refusal to cooperate with a polygraph examination that is limited in scope to the circumstances of the unauthorized disclosure under investigation. Agency regulations may provide that only the head of the agency, or his delegate, is empowered to order an employee to submit to a polygraph examination. Results of polygraph examinations should not be relied upon to the exclusion of other information obtained during investigations.

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6. The Attorney General, in consultation with the Director, Office of Personnel Management, is requested to establish an interdepartmental group to study the federal personnel security program and recommend appropriate revisions in existing Executive orders, regulations and guidelines.

7. The Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs will monitor the development of agency regulations that implement this Directive and will supervise its implementation within the White House Office.